

your discussion lined up so that it will only take a few minutes. If we cannot convince the majority of this Legislature to operate that way, we just as well close up shop and go to the mountains today. So the Chair recognizes Senator Chronister.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, we intend to fully abide by your wishes in keeping this brief so we'll start out by asking what is LB 924? This is simply a bill to clarify with modern language the ancient 1915 law adopted when doctors of chiropractic were first licensed in Nebraska. Nearly seventy years, sixty-seven to be exact, have gone by since the original law and modern progress in the chiropractic profession makes the old law obsolete. Chiropractors now spend six years in college. They use modern x-ray equipment and modern techniques to protect the health of their patients. In the intervening years since 1915, the Nebraska Department of Health has informally approved of this modern progress in the chiropractic but the actual law still reads as it did in 1915. This causes confusion to the general public, to insurance companies and to other health professions concerning the question of what the doctors of chiropractic can do in their practice. Now why should LB 924 be passed this year? Why not just wait? Well it is in the public interest to solve a legitimate problem of the health and welfare of our state as soon as possible. That is why we are elected and thus, the bill has priority status so we can solve the problem this year. The confusion of the old law will not go away. Problems and more bills related to this outdated law will only get worse with the passage of time. The time to act is now and, thus, I hope you will support the placement of this bill on General File. Now is there a cost factor? No, this is not a money bill. There is no fiscal impact. The chiropractors are not asking for any appropriations for themselves or their chiropractic colleagues or students. They have never asked this Legislature for funds for the benefit of chiropractic education. All they ask is your help in solving the problem of modern practice under a horse and buggy law of 1915. Now what about the committee which heard the bill and why should we go ahead against their decision not to report this bill out this year? It is my understanding and I stand corrected if I am wrong, but nevertheless, the Public Health Committee had its hands full or at least was concerned with problems which may come up with other bills but not LB 924. Thus, in order to provide the Legislature with more time that is needed on some health bills, the committee decided to hold all bills. Now this may sound fair but I don't believe it is. Do you? Remember there are no serious problems with LB 924. It is a well drafted bill which was introduced by the Performance Audit and Review Committee after they held a public